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1. Examiner Salman Ahmed	USPTO - GAU 2666 Re: 10/015,371 Confirmation No.: 2893	1-571.273.8300	
Date 11/28/2005		Client/Matter Number FUJH 19.250 (100794-00106)	
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**Comments****\*\* EXPEDITED PROCEDURE \*\*****Enclosed:****2 pages - RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT****For Messenger Department Use Only**

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Frances Doyle

Attorney Docket No.: FUJH 19.250 (100794-00106)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Kazuaki Nagamine, et al.  
Confirmation No.: 2893  
Serial No.: 10/015,371  
Filed: December 12, 2001  
Title: NODE DEVICE IN NETWORK, AND NETWORK SYSTEM  
Examiner: Salman Ahmed  
Group Art Unit: 2666

November 28, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated October 28, 2005, Applicant responds to the restriction requirement as follows:

In the Restriction Requirement the claims were divided into three groups.

Group I. - Claims 1-10, drawn to a node device comprising: input units for respectively inputting data from transmission lines, output units for respectively outputting data to transmission lines; and a first switching unit for switching the data input units to output units;

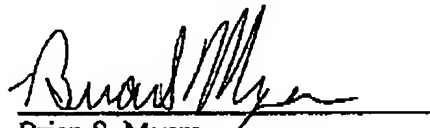
Group II. – Claim 11, drawn to an overhead information transmission method performed by a node device, comprising steps of: storing ring construction information and transmitting topology information, squelch information and switching information via transmission lines on the basis ring construction information; and

Group III. – Claim 12, drawn to a switching information transmission method comprising steps of storing data which determines to send to which of plurality of networks switching information indicating that switching processing ins to be performed when trouble occurs in a transmission line, detecting trouble in the transmission line that input data into node device.

Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-10 for further prosecution on the merits.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Brian S. Myers  
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Docket No.: FUJO 19.465 (100794-00192)  
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